



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
Los Angeles, California 90012

Director of Children and Family Services

At its meeting held January 4, 2005, the Board took the following action:

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The following was called up for consideration:

Supervisor Knabe's recommendation to join with the President of the United States in declaring January 2005 as "National Mentoring Month"; and commend the efforts of the Interagency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect and all foster child mentoring programs for their commitment to having a positive impact on the health and well-being of Los Angeles County's foster children.

Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

"As we all know, children in foster care are among the most vulnerable members of our society. Although some foster children now have mentors, most do not. Much needs to be done before every foster child has that important helping hand to guide them. Qualified mentors can provide the support and guidance these children so desperately need to face the challenges of life in out-of-home care.

"In recognition of this critical need for mentors, the President of the United States has declared January 2005 as National Mentoring Month. In addition, the Interagency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN) has formed a Task Force to focus on the creation of guidelines as well as to increase the number of available trained mentors for our young people.

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Joined with the President of the United States in declaring January 2005 as National Mentoring Month;

(Continued on Page 2)

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2. Commended the efforts of the Inter-Agency Council on Child Abuse and Neglect (ICAN), the Department of Children and Family Services, and all foster child mentoring programs for their commitment to having a positive impact on the health and well-being of Los Angeles County's foster children; and
3. Instructed the Director of Children and Family Services to assume the leadership role with ICAN in achieving the goal of providing a mentor for every foster child by the year 2010; and
4. Requested the Executive Director of the ICAN Task Force on Mentoring to provide a status report to the Board as appropriate.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor
Chief Administrative Officer
County Counsel
Executive Director, Children's Planning Council
Executive Director, Los Angeles County Children and Families
First-Proposition 10 Commission

Letter sent to:

Executive Director, Interagency Council
on Child Abuse and Neglect